

IN THE ABSTRACT

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---ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to an image forming apparatus that enables the occurrence of print defects due to a first print start time delay to be eliminated without using a temperature sensor that has a small thermal time constant. When the temperature of a fixing belt serving as an image heating body is greater than or equal to a predetermined temperature following the elapse of a fixed time after an image forming operation is started, recording paper is transported to a nip area (fixing area) of a fixing apparatus before the temperature detected by a temperature sensor reaches a predetermined image fixing temperature, and an image forming operation is started immediately. ---